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(P2145/AES)



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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: LI GONG, et al.

Serial No.: 08/883,636

Filing Date: June 26, 1997

Examiner: Douglas Meislahn

Art Unit: 2767

For: LAYER-INDEPENDENT SECURITY FOR COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 25, 1999, please amend the above-referenced application as indicated hereinafter.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 9-12 and amend the claims as indicated hereinafter:

- 1 1. (TWICE AMENDED) A method for providing communication protocol-
2 independent security for data transmitted between a first process, executing on a first
3 network node, and a second process, executing on a second network node, wherein
4 the first network node and the second network node each support at least one
5 common communication protocol, the method comprising the steps of:

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